

3/5/15

Appropriations Committee  
Connecticut General Assembly

Dear Committee Members:

As a volunteer member of the legislative Commission on Aging, I am writing to you at this time to express my support of the Governor's budget recommendation for **Connecticut's Legislative Commission on Aging** as it continues its vital and important work. The Commission, as you know, provides the Legislature with important information regarding programs crucial to the lives of older adults in Connecticut. The Commission continues to represent the concerns of older citizens by providing crucial legislative information, coordinating data gathering processes and helping draft policy that all have served to improve the daily lives of older adults. One well recognized example of this is the impact the Commission has had on The Money Follows the Person program.

As we all begin to experience the dramatic aging of the population nationally and in Connecticut, in particular, the need for the Commission and its professional staff has never been more crucial. It would be demographic shortsightedness not to support the efforts of the Commission. To paraphrase Winston Churchill, "Never before has so much been owed by so many to so few." Clearly, this is a sentiment that I am sure older citizens and legislators can understand. Finally, please realize that the efforts of the Commission and its professional staff, in particular, impact all of us whether directly or by effecting a friend or relative as we all get older.

I submit this information as testimony before the Appropriations Committee as it recognizes the important work of the Commission on Aging.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Gerard J Kerins MD,FACP  
Associate Chief of Geriatrics for Education  
Geriatric Medicine Fellowship Program Director

Associate Clinical Professor  
Yale University School of Medicine  
Yale New Haven Hospital